PATENT APPLICATION Q3.62981 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE e U.S. Patent Application I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited Applicant: with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-Shinohara et al. CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, 09/275,578 Serial No. Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date. July 21, 2003 Filed: March 24, 1999 Date Attorney for Applicants Conf. No.: 9928 For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC RECORDING DISK DEVICE Art Unit: 1773 Examiner: Bernatz, K.

AMENDMENT F

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 20, 2003, please amend the application as follows: